

# BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

**PATHOLOGY ANNUAL 1970—Volume Five**—Series Editor, Sheldon C. Sommers, M.D., Director of Laboratories, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, N.Y.; Clinical Professor of Pathology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; Clinical Professor of Pathology, University of Southern California School of Medicine, Los Angeles. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Educational Division, Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. (10016), 1970. 436 pages, \$15.00.

This *Pathology Annual*, edited by Sheldon C. Sommers, is the fifth in a series of excellent essays and reviews by distinguished pathologists. Like previous *Annals*, it contains a wide range of currently interesting and important subjects.

Fisher and Sieracki concisely describe the ultrastructure of human normal and neoplastic prostate, but conclude that the advantages of EM evaluation of prostatic tissue are limited at present. Embryonal carcinoma of the testis is discussed by Pierce and Abell, particularly the histogenesis and pathology of these germ-cell neoplasms. Higginson and Svoboda review current information on primary carcinoma of the liver, including geographic pathology, experimental liver cancer, relationship to cirrhosis, and a listing of possible hepatocarcinogens. Some recent studies, however, link more intimately the persistence of the Australian antigen in hepatocellular carcinoma than do these authors. Diagnostic problems involving nodal lymphomas are reviewed by Sieracki and Fisher, who contrast malignant lymphomas with a number of non-lymphoma lymph node lesions to illustrate the pitfalls contributing to diagnostic failure. McCluskey details the structural features of lupus nephritis as visualized by light and electron microscopy and immunofluorescence and neatly reviews present concepts of its pathogenesis.

The biochemical and ultrastructural characteristics of adrenal medullary tumors are correlated by Tannenbaum, who suggests that further study of such neoplasms would be clinically useful for more accurate prognosis and therapy. Fetterman beautifully reviews renal structure and function studied by microdissection of nephrons and collecting ducts, and emphasizes the value of this morphologic technique. A fascinating story of Kaiser Frederick III and his affliction (carcinoma of the larynx) is recounted by Ober. Joachim extensively reviews the tissue culture of human neoplasms and briefly discusses the use of this technique for screening and testing chemotherapeutic agents. A considerably informative organizational plan for hospital tumor registries is outlined by Olson, Stone and Harlan, who stress the usefulness of data thus accumulated. A contemporary view of lung injury and repair is offered by Bowden and Wyatt, demonstrating a unifying concept of the limited lung pathways of reaction to injury. Dutz contributes a very complete and well illustrated pathologic and clinical review of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. The ultrastructural aspects of acute inflammation, with particular reference to vascular permeability and leukocyte emigration, are discussed by Marchesi. Dixon and Cochrane thoroughly describe and illustrate the pathogenic effects of antigen-antibody complexes, both in experimental and in human lesions.

A most instructive treatise on the use of polarized light in pathology, including the application of such microscopy to biology, is presented by Wolman.

The concluding chapter of the *Annual* comprises another of Foraker's delightful plays, depicting in seven scenes a day in the lives of some academic pathologists.

This 1970 *Annual* should be of great interest to many clinicians as well as to pathologists in general.

STUART LINDSAY, M.D.

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**CURRENT PSYCHIATRIC THERAPIES—Volume X—1970**—Edited by Jules H. Masserman, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, Northwestern University, Chicago. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10017), 1970. 239 pages, \$14.75.

This volume maintains the same high level of quality and progressive interest in new developments in the field that past volumes have done. Its strengths greatly outnumber its weaknesses. The same comments this reviewer made on last year's volume still apply, and will be repeated here.

Both the selection of articles and the quality of writing is good. Each of the articles represents a new, imaginative, sometimes-controversial-but-certainly-worth-trying approach to a psychiatric problem. Some of the techniques described here in pilot form will grow and become accepted parts of psychiatric practice in future years; others will fade into oblivion. My crystal ball is off to my astrologers' to have its vibrations tuned, so I won't hazard a guess as to which of the articles in *Current Psychiatric Therapies* of 1970 are truly harbingers of things to come.

I was impressed by the clarity, brevity and crispness of the writing. The book is easy to read. Credit for this must go to the editor, Jules Masserman, whose eye or hand (or both) insured the book's readability. I commend the book to psychiatrists and non-psychiatrists alike who are curious about new directions in the field and who would like to know about interesting pilot projects already in operation.

The price of \$14.75 seems high.

C. PETER ROSENBAUM, M.D.

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**THE EARLY ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS OF AMERICA**—Alfred Rives Shands, Jr., M.D., Medical Director Emeritus, Alfred I. duPont Institute of the Nemours Foundation, Wilmington, Delaware; President of the American Orthopaedic Association, 1953-1954; Historian of the American Orthopaedic Association, 1965-1970; Visiting Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, 1941-1970; Associate Professor of Surgery in Charge of Orthopaedics, Duke University School of Medicine, 1930-1937. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo. (63103), 1970. 190 pages, with 156 illustrations, \$15.00.

The growth of orthopedic surgery in the United States since World War II can only be designated by the word 'fantastic'. But this growth arose from vital and deeply established roots which nourished the formation of its branching second phase which occurred between the

wars to create the present efflorescence. The author, Dr. Shands, is a distinguished leader in the development of the more scientific second phase of orthopedics and therefore an ideal interpreter of the transition from the period of the "strap and buckle" pioneers to the present, maintaining that essential historical continuity expressed in his own quotation: "The heritage of the past is the seed that brings forth the harvest of the future."

In twelve carefully documented biographies Dr. Shands presents to us the work of the early orthopedic surgeons of America. What a galaxy of ingenious and dedicated men they were, whose names are household words in medicine although unfortunately their personalities and the nature of the contributions are not. William Dettmold, first American orthopedic surgeon; Louis Bauer, author of the first American orthopedic textbook; Lewis Sayre, first professor of orthopedic surgery; Henry Davis, founder of the American school of orthopedic surgery; James Knight, founder of the Hospital for the Ruptured and Crippled; Virgil Gibney, teacher of master surgeons; Charles Taylor of the Taylor brace; Newton Shaffer, conservative organizer of the specialty; John and Buckminster Brown, father and son of the Boston school; Edward Bradford, of the Bradford frame; DeForest Willard, rehabilitator of the crippled child.

Interestingly written and well illustrated, this attractive work should be in the hands of all orthopedic surgeons and especially those in residency training. The medical historian welcomes a work which enriches his view of the growth and development of American medicine.

J. B. DE C. M. SAUNDERS, M.D.

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**THE TRUTH ABOUT CONTACT LENSES—Everything the Wearer, or Potential Wearer, Should Know**—Jeffrey Baker. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10016), 1970. 248 pages, \$5.95.

This is a remarkably comprehensive and informative discussion of the pros and cons of contact glasses. Written by a layman for laymen it is recommended for study by all those persons having to do with the prescribing, fitting, manufacture and wearing of these lenses as well.

Mr. Baker, a contact glass wearer, was unable to find answers to many questions regarding these lenses and their advantages and disadvantages. He has thoroughly researched his subject and this book is the result.

The book is a fair and unbiased appraisal of the whole subject of contact glasses. It points out in considerable detail why some persons do well with the lenses almost from the start while others find them intolerable. The advantages of contact lenses are documented and, with equal fairness, their disadvantages and dangers are described. Various myths about contact glasses are exploded. The methods of fitting the lenses are described and compared with the prescribing of spectacles. The chapters on adapting to contact glasses and on the troubles which may beset the adapted or even the veteran wearer are especially valuable. Finally, an entire chapter devoted to practical tips for lens wearing success is worth the price of the entire book.

The layman should find the chapters on eye anatomy, the nature of contact lenses and the history of their development, and the manner in which they effect visual improvement of considerable interest.

Those practitioners who have anything to do with the fitting of these lenses, whether they be ophthalmologists, optometrists, or technicians working with opticians under the direction of ophthalmologists should be especially interested in the portions of this book describing the dan-

gers of improperly fitted lenses, overwearing of lenses, dependence on contact glasses and the possibilities of permanent damage to the eye from these devices. I heartily recommend this book to all such practitioners.

DAVID O. HARRINGTON, M.D.

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**A BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE—Excerpts and Essays on the Men and Their Work**—John H. Talbott, M.D., Formerly Professor of Medicine, University of Buffalo School of Medicine, Physician-in-Chief, Buffalo General Hospital, and Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and Director of the Division of Scientific Publications. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10017), 1970. 1211 pages, \$60.00.

The biographical précis is a thankless task of scientific writing. Dr. Talbott, while editing the JAMA and putting color on its covers, spent many evenings and weekends composing these essays, which were published in the JAMA. Many, because of letters to the editor, were revised and expanded. The biographies begin with Hammurabi and end with Banting. Only one physician living at the time of printing is included. The nearly 500 mini-biographies include the salient details, but occasionally leave out spicy items of the subject. For example, Talbott does not tell why Moritz Kohn changed his name to Kaposi. All in all, the panorama of medicine is spanned biographically. Of greatest value in the book's contents are the extracts from the publications of the biographies. Here, conveniently in one volume, the reader can find the original statement of the great verities of medicine.

This book is tasty bait for the reviewer's malady—carping about minutiae and crabbing about omissions. It is possible that obstetricians may groan because the Chamberlens of forceps-fame are missing, and psychiatrists may object to the absence of Henry Stack Sullivan and Carl Jung. Cardiologists may ponder why Marey and Paul Wood are missing, and internists may look in vain for George Dock and the Peppers of Philadelphia. Surgeons may wonder that Souttar, Homans, and O'Shaughnessy are not included. And if Somerset Maugham is given a place because of Talbott's broad interest, what of Wilfred Trotter and Parkes Weber? Historians will be annoyed by the omission of Fielding Garrison, whose history of medicine Talbott no doubt consulted hundreds of times while composing the biographies.

This interesting book is aimed at medical students and those practitioners whose interests include the history of our noble art. No other single volume even approaches it in completeness. For libraries it is a must. The price of \$60 will regrettably keep it from the shelves of many whose leisure would be made more enjoyable by it.

EDWARD SHAPIRO, M.D.

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**THE HISTOGENESIS OF THYROID CANCER**—N. Simionescu, Institute of Endocrinology, Department of Morphology, Bucharest, Romania. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10017), 1970. 173 pages, \$22.75.

This monograph, based on a study of 368 patients in Bucharest, deals with the pathology and clinicopathologic course of thyroid cancer. In reality, it is a potpourri of information that is extremely difficult to read and digest. The author's classification of thyroid cancer is unique and not readily related to pathologic classifications currently accepted in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere. Most of the photographs are technically acceptable, but many lack structures that are indicated by the accompanying legends. This monograph cannot be recommended for students of thyroid disease.

STUART LINDSAY, M.D.